



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q88668

Shinya YOSHIDA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/540,421

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Confirmation No.: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: June 24, 2005

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT U.S. Appln. No.: 10/540,421

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents WO 00/75133 and JPA 2-138172, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of the corresponding International Search Report citing such documents, indicating the degree of relevance found by the International Bureau. Also, English abstracts have been provided for those two documents, and WO 00/75133 is cited and discussed in the present specification at page 3. Applicants have also advised that EP 1186601 and USP 6,573, 279, each cited herein, correspond to WO 00/75133.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT U.S. Appln. No.: 10/540,421

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Boland

Registration No. 32,197

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Date: October 12, 2005

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Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	/540,421	
INF	ORMATION	DISCLOSURE	Confirmation Number	Not yet assigned	
		Y APPLICANT PE	Filing Date	June 24, 2005	
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(	use as many shee	ts as necessary)	Art Unit	Not yet assigned	
,		OCT 12 3003	Examiner Name	Not yet assigned	
Sheet	1	of (1 do.)	Attorney Docket Number	Q88668	
		13	7		

U.S. PREME T DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Cite Initials* No.	Cita	Document Number		Publication Date	
	No.1	Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		US 6,573,279		06/03/2003	Watanabe et al.
		US			

Examiner Cite Initials* No.1	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Translation <sup>6</sup>	
	Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document		
		EP	1 186 601	Al	03/13/2002		English
		wo	00/75133	A1	12/14/2000		Abstract
		JР	2-138172	A	05/28/1990		Patent Abstracts of Japan
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Examiner Cite Initials* No.1		Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.		
		International Search Report dated March 18, 2004		
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Examiner Signature

Date Considered

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.